

RESOLUTION NO. 12-2

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are apprised that Dr. Boyce Watkins, one of the most highly sought after African-American scholars in the world, will serve as guest speaker during the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast scheduled to be held January 16, 2012, at 8:00 a.m. in the North Hall of the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama; and,

WHEREAS, the MLK Unity Breakfast will be sponsored by the Delta Lambda Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. who will celebrate their 27th Anniversary of hosting this event. The breakfast is held to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and honor two unsung heroes from our community who give unselfishly of themselves for the causes of unity, justice, and equality; and,

WHEREAS, specializing in financial psychology, educational motivation, and black social commentary, Dr. Watkins has presented his message to millions, making regular appearances on CNN, CNBC, MSNBC, ABC News, BET, the New York Times, the Washington Post, Black Enterprise Magazine and many more national media outlets. Brilliant, articulate, and practical, Dr. Watkins is a world-leading authority in Finance and Investing. In his fifth and most recent book, "Financial Lovemaking 101 - Merging Assets With Your Partner in Ways That Feel Good," Dr. Watkins explains why millions of couples destroy their relationships with financially questionable choices. His test for FIV, the Financial Irresponsibility Virus, is one of many creative techniques used to get American couples to talk about money; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Watkins' research at Syracuse University is world renown and has been cited by a multitude of national print media, including USA Today, Forbes Magazine, Essence Magazine, and the Wall Street Journal. His research presence is global, with visiting scholar positions at the highly prestigious Shanghai University of Finance and Economics in China, the Center for European Economic Research in Germany, and Carnegie Mellon University; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Watkins has impeccable credentials to support his financial advice. Dr. Watkins earned BA and BS degrees with a triple major in Finance, Economics, and Business Management. He was also selected by the Wall Street Journal as the Outstanding Graduating Senior in Finance. He then earned a Masters Degree in Mathematical Statistics and a Ph.D from Ohio State University. During his year of graduation, he was the only African-American in the country to earn a Ph.D in Finance; and,

WHEREAS, seriously committed to social justice, Dr. Watkins has been an outspoken critic of social and racial inequality. His fourth book, "What if George Bush Were a Black Man?," has been featured in the national media as one of the most riveting statements in modern

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social commentary. His commitment to inner-city youth is further shown in his role as National Director of the Step Up and Go to College Program. As a struggling high school student himself, Dr. Watkins formed this program to give students the motivation and tools to succeed at the college level; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Watkins is redefining the role of the public scholar in American society. He is known as "The People's Scholar" and presents a mix of Financial Theory, social commentary, and down-to-earth socio-political thought that is essentially unprecedented within American Business Schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that we extend our warmest welcome to guest speaker Dr. Boyce Watkins, other program participants and attendees at this significant occasion. We express our appreciation and congratulations to the Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. as they celebrate their 27th Anniversary hosting the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast and extend best wishes for a successful event. May every success be yours in all future endeavors.

ADOPTED this the 12th day of January, 2012.

President of the City Council of the
City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the 12th day of January, 2012.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama

